



County of San Diego

JOHN L. SNYDER
DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
5555 OVERLAND AVE, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92123-1295
(858) 694-2212 FAX: (858) 268-0461
Web Site: sdcdpw.org

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
FOR THE PROPOSED RANCHO SANTA FE ROUNDABOUTS PROJECT
RANCHO SANTA FE, SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
OCTOBER 15, 2007**

The County of San Diego (County) is the lead agency in the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Rancho Santa Fe Roundabouts Project as specified by Sections 15120-15131 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.

This notice is issued pursuant to Section 15082 of the State CEQA Guidelines. It is intended to inform those persons and organizations that may be concerned with the environmental effects of the project. Those public agencies with specific statutory responsibilities are requested to indicate their specific role in the project approval process.

Because of the time limits mandated by State law, responses should be sent at the earliest possible date, but no later than 30 days after receipt of this notice. Please send your response to:

County of San Diego
Department of Public Works,
Environmental Services Unit
5469 Kearny Villa Rd., Suite 305
San Diego, CA 92123

Attn: Sean McClain
Fax: (858) 874-4068
e-mail: sean.mcclain@sdcounty.ca.gov

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

The environmental document will be an EIR and is intended to allow the County to examine the environmental effects of the proposed Rancho Santa Fe Roundabouts Project and to take steps to avoid unnecessary environmental impacts.

PROJECT LOCATION

The proposed Rancho Santa Fe Roundabout Project is located at three intersections in the unincorporated community of Rancho Santa Fe in San Diego County (Thomas Bros. 1168: F1, F2 and F3). These intersections are part of the Paseo Delicias Corridor located between Via de la Valle and El Camino del Norte. The proposed project is located at the following intersections:

- Paseo Delicias/Via de la Valle/La Fremontia (Thomas Bros. 1168: E3)
- Paseo Delicias/El Montevideo/La Valle Plateada (Thomas Bros. 1168: F2)
- Paseo Delicias/El Camino Del Norte/Del Dios Highway (Thomas Bros. 1168: F1)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The County Department of Public Works (DPW) is proposing the construction of three roundabouts in the community of Rancho Santa Fe. Currently the two westernmost intersections are all-way stop controlled and the easternmost intersection is stop controlled on El Camino del Norte approaching Paseo Delicias/Del Dios Highway. All three intersections experience a Level of Service (LOS) F in peak traffic hours. Vehicles traveling along this stretch of roadway must wait in long queues at each of the three stop sign controlled intersections. At the request of the community, a roundabout feasibility study was completed which determined that roundabouts at the three subject intersections would function at a LOS A or B in peak traffic hours.

The project objective is to implement the least environmentally damaging project that provides efficient traffic movements, protects life and property, protects natural and cultural resources, minimizes visual impacts while ensuring community compatibility, and protects recreation resources.

POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The Following environmental factors will be analyzed in the environmental document: Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Recreational Uses, Noise, Traffic, and Water Quality/Hydrology as a result of implementation of the project. These environmental factors, along with an analysis of project alternatives, cumulative effects, and potential for growth inducement, will be analyzed and discussed in the EIR.

LIST OF AGENCIES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND INDIVIDUALS TO RECEIVE THIS NOTICE OF PREPARATION

All Property Owners within 300 feet of the Project

AT&T Communications

Audubon Society

California Department of Fish and Game

California Department of Transportation, District #11

California Department of Transportation

California Native Plant Society

California Office of Historic Preservation

California Office of Planning and Research – State Clearinghouse

California Regional Water Quality Control Board – San Diego Region

County of San Diego, Air Pollution Control District

County of San Diego, Department of Planning and Land Use

County of San Diego, Sheriff's Department

County of San Diego, Supervisor Bill Horn

Native American Heritage Commission

Rancho Santa Fe Association

San Diego Association of Governments

San Diego County Archaeological Society, Inc.

San Diego County Water Authority

San Diego Gas and Electric Co.

San Dieguito Planning Group

Sierra Club, San Diego Chapter

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service